

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, FR

SUBJECT: POST RELATIONSHIP WITH AMERICAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE IN FRANCE

REF: STATE 94266

1. RELATIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND AMERICAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE HERE HAVE BEEN CLOSE AND FRUITFUL. MINISTER
OF E/C AFFAIRS, COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR, CONSUL GENERAL,
AND TREASURY REPRESENTATIVE ARE ALL CONSULTING
DIRECTORS ON AMCHAM BOARD AND PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN
SEVERAL AMCHAM COMMITTEES. WE HAVE ARRANGEMENT WITH
CHAMBER UNDER WHICH CHAMBER MAINTAINS UP TO DATE LIST
OF AMERICAN COMPANIES IN FRANCE, WHILE EMBASSY IS THE
SOLE REPOSITORY OF INFORMATION ABOUT FRENCH AGENTS AND
DISTRIBUTORS REPRESENTING AMERICAN COMPANIES IN FRANCE.
EMBASSY COMMERCIAL LIBRARIAN GIVES TECHNICAL ADVICE
AND EXTRA REFERENCE MATERIAL TO AMCHAM LIBRARIAN.
EMBASSY ASSISTS IN IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL SPEAKERS FOR
AMCHAM LUNCHEONS AND DINNERS FROM AMONG OFFICIAL
VISITORS FROM US OF SUITABLE STATURE. EMBASSY ALSO
PROVIDES CHAMBER WITH COPIES OF MARKET STUDIES AND
OTHER INFORMATION OF POTENTIAL USE TO AMCHAM MEMBERS.

2. CHAMBER, FOR ITS PART, PERFORMS EXCEPTIONALLY USE-
FUL SERVICES TO US BY SUPPLYING PANEL OF EXPERTS TO
BRIEF NEW-TO-MARKET EXHIBITORS AT USTC SHOWS. CHAMBER
IS ALSO USEFUL IN TRANSMITTING TO ITS MEMBERS POLICY
STATEMENTS OR OTHER MATERIAL WHICH WE WISH TO CONVEY
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TO THEM. EMBASSY OFFICERS (NOTABLY COMMERCIAL

COUNSELOR) ARE IN ALMOST DAILY CONTACT WITH CHAMBER PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO DISCUSS SUBSTANTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS OF COMMON INTEREST.

3. EMBASSY AND CHAMBER ALSO COLLABORATE CLOSELY IN DEALING WITH SPECIFIC PROBLEMS BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION BY AMERICAN FIRMS IN FRANCE. IN SUCH CASES CHAMBER OFTEN FORMS SELECT COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS TO ANALYSE PROBLEM AND SUPPLY ADVICE TO FIRM IN DIFFICULTY; WHILE EMBASSY CONDUCTS ANY NECESSARY DISCUSSIONS WITH GOF AGENCIES.

4. AMCHAM AND EMBASSY WERE AMONG SEVERAL JOINT SPONSORS OF "INVEST IN USA" SEMINAR HELD IN PARIS LAST MAY AND WILL BE COOPERATING ON SIMILAR PROJECTS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. CHAMBER ALSO PROVIDED BOOTH AND WINDOW DISPLAY IN OUR USTC BICENTENNIAL TRADE SHOW ON PRINTING AND GRAPHIC ARTS EQUIPMENT, MARCH 8-11.

5. OUR FIVE CONSULATES WORK CLOSELY WITH AMCHAM REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN THEIR CONSULAR DISTRICTS. CONSULATES USE THESE CHAMBERS AS AVENUES TO REACH FRENCH AND AMERICAN COMPANIES, TO ASSIST IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AMBASSADORIAL AND OTHER VISITS TO REGIONAL LOCATIONS AND TO PROVIDE AUDIENCE FOR VISITING SENIOR US SPEAKERS.

6. AMBASSADOR RUSH HOLDS QUARTERLY MEETINGS WITH SELECTED HEADS OF AMERICAN BUSINESSES IN FRANCE ON REVOLVING ROSTER BASIS. CHAMBER OFFICIALS REGULARLY ATTEND THESE MEETINGS AND ARE HELPFUL IN SUGGESTING TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION.
RUSH

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